

Amendments to the claims:

1. (currently amended) A circular power saw (10), composed of a saw assembly (12) with a housing (14, 16) that encloses a motor and a saw blade (18) configured to be driven by the motor, whereby the saw assembly (12) is pivotably supported relative to a footplate (22) such that it is adjustable between a minimum and maximum cutting depth, wherein a handle (24) is fixedly supported relative to the footplate (22) independently from the saw assembly (12), wherein the saw assembly (12) is configured to be automatically substantially or fully decoupled from an adjusted cutting depth instantaneously during sawing if kickback occurs, such that the saw assembly (12) kicks into a position of minimum cutting depth relative to the footplate (22) and relative to the handle (24), whereby the handle remains in its prior position handling forces which act on the saw blade (18) from the handle (24) during sawing.
2. (currently amended) The circular power saw as recited in Claim 1, wherein the saw assembly (12) is configured to be coupled or decoupled via a force-dependent coupling (44) from the handle (24).
3. (currently amended) The circular power saw as recited in Claim 1, wherein the saw is configured to be handled and guided using only the handle (24), which is connected to a the swivel arm (36) pivotable on the footplate (22) in a fixed manner.

4. (original) The circular power saw as recited in Claim 1, wherein the saw assembly (12) is supported on the swivel arm (36) such that the cutting depth is adjustable independently of the handle (24).

5. (currently amended) A circular power saw (10) with a handle, composed of a saw assembly (12) with a housing (14, 16) that encloses a motor and a saw blade (18) configured to be driven by the motor, ~~and a handle (24)~~, whereby the saw assembly (12) is pivotably supported relative to a footplate (22) such that it is adjustable around an axis (20) between a minimum and maximum cutting depth, wherein each cutting depth position of the saw assembly (12) is releasably lockable in position using an overload coupling (44), the direction of release being toward the minimum cutting depth independently from the handle.

6. (currently amended) The A circular power saw as recited in claim 5, ~~(10)~~, composed of a saw assembly (12) with a housing (14, 16) that encloses a motor and a saw blade (18) configured to be driven by the motor, ~~and a handle (24)~~, whereby the saw assembly (12) is pivotably supported relative to a footplate (22) such that it is adjustable around an axis (20) between a minimum and maximum cutting depth, wherein each cutting depth position of the saw assembly (12) is releasably lockable in position using an overload coupling, the direction of release being toward the minimum cutting depth ~~and~~ wherein the overload coupling (44) is configured as a

detent coupling (40, 42) and is located on the side of the protective hood (16) facing away from the axis (20).

7. (previously presented) A circular power saw (10), composed of a saw assembly (12) with a housing (14, 16) that encloses a motor and a saw blade (18) capable of being driven by the motor, whereby the saw assembly (12) is pivotably supported relative to a footplate (22) such that it can be adjusted between a minimum and maximum cutting depth, wherein the saw assembly (12) is configured to be substantially decoupled from handling forces which act on the saw blade (18) from the handle (24) during sawing, wherein the saw assembly (12) is supported on the swivel arm (36) such that the cutting depth is adjustable independently of the handle (24) and wherein the detent coupling (40, 42) is composed of a locking piece (40) that is grippable at the rear by a detent piece (42).

8. (previously presented) The circular power saw as recited in Claim 6, wherein the locking piece (40) and the detent piece (42) have matching bearing surfaces (52, 54) that are configured to bear against each other at a certain identical angle extending in the direction of the release force, whereby the angle is selected such that the locking piece (40) and the detent piece (42) automatically come apart when a certain minimum force is applied which moves the saw assembly (12) into the cutting depth position "0".

9. (previously presented) A circular power saw (10), composed of a saw assembly (12) with a housing (14, 16) that encloses a motor and a saw blade (18) configured to be driven by the motor, whereby the saw assembly (12) is pivotably supported relative to a footplate (22) such that it is adjustable between a minimum and maximum cutting depth, wherein the saw assembly (12) is configured to be substantially decoupled from handling forces which act on the saw blade (18) from the handle (24) during sawing, wherein the saw assembly (12) is supported on the swivel arm (36) such that the cutting depth is adjustable independently of the handle (24), and wherein the force that releases the detent coupling (44) is defined by a lift spring (48) and a coupling spring (46), so that the release force depends on the cutting depth setting.

10. (currently amended) The circular power saw as recited in claim 1, wherein A ~~circular power saw (10), composed of a saw assembly (12) with a housing (14, 16) that encloses a motor and a saw blade (18) configured to be driven by the motor, whereby the saw assembly (12) is pivotably supported relative to a footplate (22) such that it is adjustable between a minimum and maximum cutting depth, wherein~~ the saw assembly (12) is configured to be automatically substantially or fully decouplable from handling forces which act on the saw blade (18) from the handle during sawing, wherein the saw assembly (12) is configured to be coupled or decoupled via a force-dependent coupling (44), and wherein the force-dependent coupling (44) is the saw assembly (12) with cutting-depth adjusting means (38, 39, 45), so that, if kickback occurs, the cutting-depth adjusting means (38, 39, 45) are

detachable, so that the saw assembly (12) can then move out of the way in a manner that minimizes the cutting depth.